

**Letter to Prospective Donors to the Village School Building Project**  
**by Dr. Mike Okeke**

Dear friends:

My name is Mike Okeke. During one of my several visits from the U.S. to Nigeria, my attention was drawn to the deplorable condition of the nursery and primary schools in remote villages in Nigeria. Unfortunately, more attention is paid to universities and other higher institutions in Nigeria while nursery and primary schools, especially in remote villages, are neglected. An example of this observation is identified in Umuezeagu Village Nursery and Primary School where children find themselves in a dilapidated building without toilet facilities, and without nourishment (food) while in school. *(Pictures of the dilapidated school building and of the children's classrooms are attached herewith, for your perusal)*

**My Personal Efforts Thus Far:**

Repulsed by the unsafe and unsanitary condition of the school environment, I used my own funds to pay for erecting (building) a wall around the school along with an entrance gate so as to provide security for the children and restrict people living in the area from dumping refuse on the school ground. *(Pictures of the Wall with the Entrance Gate are attached herewith, for your perusal)*

From 2016 to the present, I have been providing funds regularly from my pocket to help pay the monthly salaries of the teachers at the Umuezeagu Nursery and Primary School.

**Btw:** In 2004, I organized a fund raising activity under African Treasures and generated sufficient funds with which 2 high school students from North Clayton High School in Clayton County Georgia, were successfully sponsored for a one-week visit to Africa as part of the Student's Exchange Program. The video

interview of the “before and after” of their trip to Africa are available on the next page of this website: [www.AfricanTreasuresTV.com](http://www.AfricanTreasuresTV.com) .

### **Necessary Improvement:**

In my opinion, no child deserves to be left behind to waste away in such backward environment. Children need all the help possible to develop their individual potential. They need to be in a good learning environment with the necessary learning tools. They need to be in a safe environment with good toilet system. They need proper nourishment (food) to help their physical and mental development.

### **Proposal**

My daughter, Udozo, and I visited Nigeria last December (2017). During our brief stay, we took time to visit the Umuezeagu Village Nursery and Primary school run by St. Barth’s Anglican Church, and the deplorable condition was/is still the same. I hired a building engineer to draw up a design for a decent school building where the children can learn. The engineer came up with a nice design for a storey building - since the land space is highly limited. The budget for the proposed one story school building is about **Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00)**. *(Attached for your perusal, are drawings of the proposed school building designed by the engineer).*

### **Your Help**

I am now at the point where I need your help to move these children to a better learning environment. At the budget of **\$250,000.00** for the proposed school building, it will take years for me to complete the building if I do it alone. Therefore, I am personally asking you and my other friends for your financial contribution to help start and complete the proposed school building for these less fortunate children.

## **Your Financial Donations Are Tax Deductible**

Please make your donations payable to:

### **African Treasures**

P.O. Box 161345  
Atlanta, GA 30321

African Treasures is a short name for “Celebrate African Treasures, Inc.”, which is a Georgia non-profit corporation with Control #: 0401582, with a 501(c)(3) status, and EIN: 43-2039521.

This fund raising effort will be continuous until the school building is completed. I will keep you apprised of the progress made in erecting the school building.

### **Conclusion**

The breaking ground for the proposed building is scheduled for May 2018. Help us make a positive difference in the lives of these children by providing them with a good foundation in education. They can become the scientists, inventors, university professors, engineers, physicians, lawyers, and visionary leaders of tomorrow, if we can improve their condition today by providing them with a decent and healthy learning environment.

The importance of your financial support cannot be over-stated no matter the size of it. Help us make a positive difference in the lives of these children. Help us save the future of Africa. As the popular saying goes here in America - **“The mind is a terrible thing to waste”**.

Thank you.

Dr. Mike Okeke  
*President – C.A.T., Inc.*